OCT 15 1962
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BALTIMORE, MD.
NEWS-POST

EVENING 221,008

OCT 15 1962

U. S. Offers Cuba Ransom, Baker Claims

The Central Intelligence Agency has been "blackmailed" into offering "a minimum of $3 million in taxpayers' money" to ransom Cuban prisoners, Joe M. Baker, Fifth District GOP candidate for Congress, charged today.

Baker refused to disclose the source of his information, saying only that it came from a high government official and would be revealed if negotiations are completed.

ADDRESSING the Anne Arundel County Republican Club, Mr. Baker also claimed that "food surpluses, bought with tax money, are being used as a negotiating point by James B. Donovan," who is dickering for release of the Cuban exiles captured in the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion.

Mr. Baker said Mr. Donovan was commissioned to negotiate by Attorney General Robert Kennedy, and the people have a right to know "our government's part in giving Communist Cuba blackmail money."

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